

State of Nevada Board of Occupational Therapy

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Policy 11

INTERDISCIPLINARY PRACTICE

06/15/13

Pursuant to the provisions of NRS Chapter 640A, the State Board of Occupational Therapy is charged with the protection of the public health, safety and welfare by ensuring that only competent and scrupulous persons practice occupational therapy in the State and persons who practice occupational therapy maintain an appropriate standard of professional conduct.

The Board licenses qualified occupational therapists and occupational therapy assistants and regulates the professional practice of occupational therapy throughout the State pursuant to NAC 640A.

The Board recognizes that licensed occupational therapists and occupational therapy assistants may also hold professional licensure in related professional practice areas such as physical therapy that are regulated under provisions that may be more or less stringent than the requirements established for the practice of occupational therapy.

The purpose of this policy is to provide guidance in determining the applicability of established laws and regulations relating to practice in interdisciplinary settings; establish a basis for determining the legal authority and jurisdiction of activities which may cross professional practice settings; and to clarify the governing jurisdiction when determining whether a licensee is in compliance with applicable laws and regulations and discipline.

CONSIDERATIONS

1. Client Services – type of service for which the client was referred (OT or PT)

If the client/patient is referred for or receiving both OT and PT services; the services should not be provided concurrently at the same time. There should be a distinct differentiation in the client records to distinguish what services are being provided by date/time and activity.

2. Therapy Billing – insurance or payment codes for billing of services (OT or PT)

Appropriate codes should be utilized for the services rendered based upon the actual services received as documented in the client record. How an activity is billed will be considered in determining the governing jurisdiction and authority.

3. Supervision Requirements – practice of assistants, aides, technicians and unlicensed individuals

Regulatory requirements for the supervision of assistants, aides, technicians and unlicensed individuals may differ for each profession under which an individual may be licensed. In determining whether a violation of supervisory requirements has occurred, the Board will consider the licensee's actions based upon the OT Board's established regulations and jurisdiction; notwithstanding the authority of another jurisdiction.

4. Reasonable Practice – multi-jurisdictional activities

Individuals holding multiple professional licenses should be knowledgeable of the regulatory requirements of each professional licensure board under which they hold licensure.